

Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 019219-008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
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Jeffrey Wilson THORNTON et al.)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Application No.: Unassigned)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: June 15, 2001)	
)	
For: ACIDIC SUPERABSORBENT)	
POLYSACCARIDES)	
)	
)	
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 6-8, 10-13 and 15 as follows:

6. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, in which the polysaccharide containing acidic groups contains 0.3-3.0 carboxyl groups per monosaccharide unit.

7. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, in which said cross-linking agent is a bis-epoxy compound, and the polysaccharide is acidified before step (a).